-----

Title: The Code

Author: Unknown

-----

1. A thief must turn his back on his family- mother, father, brothers, sisters - the criminal community is his family. 2. A thief is forbidden to have a family- wife, children. 3. A thief is forbidden to work; A thief must live off the fruits of criminal activity alone. 4. A thief must give moral and material assistance to other thieves using the obshchak (money fund) 5. A thief must give information about accomplices and their whereabouts (location of hideouts, ect.) only in the strictest confidence. 6. If a thief is under investigation, a petty thief must take responsibility upon himself to give the suspected thief time to flee.

7. When a conflict arises in a criminal group or amongst thieves, there must be a meeting to resolve the issue.

8. When neccessary, a thief must attend a meeting to judge a thief if his conduct or behavior comes into

question.

- 9. Punishment for a thief decided by the thief must be carried out.
- 10. A thief must be proficient in criminals' jargon.
- 11. A thief must not enter a card game if he does not have money to pay.
- 12. A thief must teach his craft to novice thieves.
- 13. A thief should keep a gofer under his influence.
- 14. A thief must not lose his sense when drinking alcohol.
- 15. A thief must not in anyway become involved with the authorities; a theif must not participate in social activities; a thief must not join social organizations.
- 16. A thief must not take up weapons from the hands of state authority, and a thief must not serve in the army.
- 17. A thief must fulfill all promises made to other thieves.